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Survey of EVANSBURG

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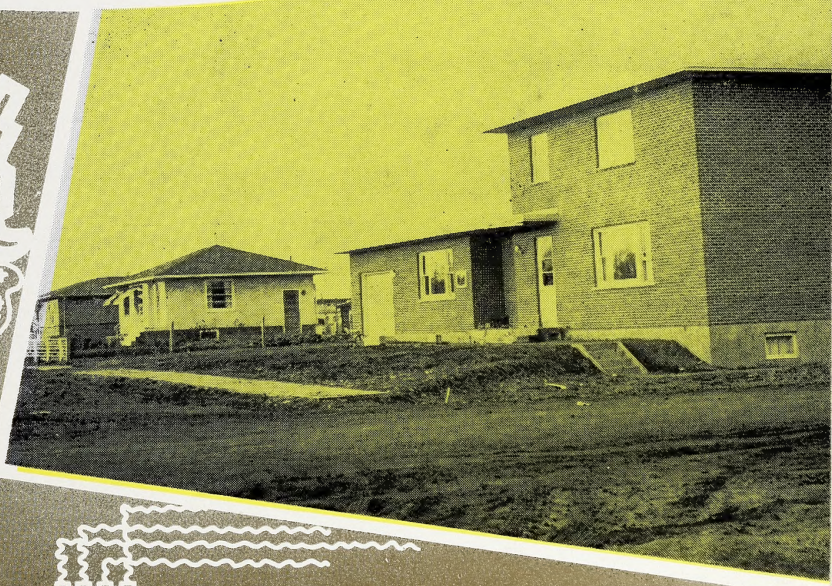

Prepared By

DEPT. OF INDUSTRY & DEVELOPMENT
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
Government of the Province of Alberta

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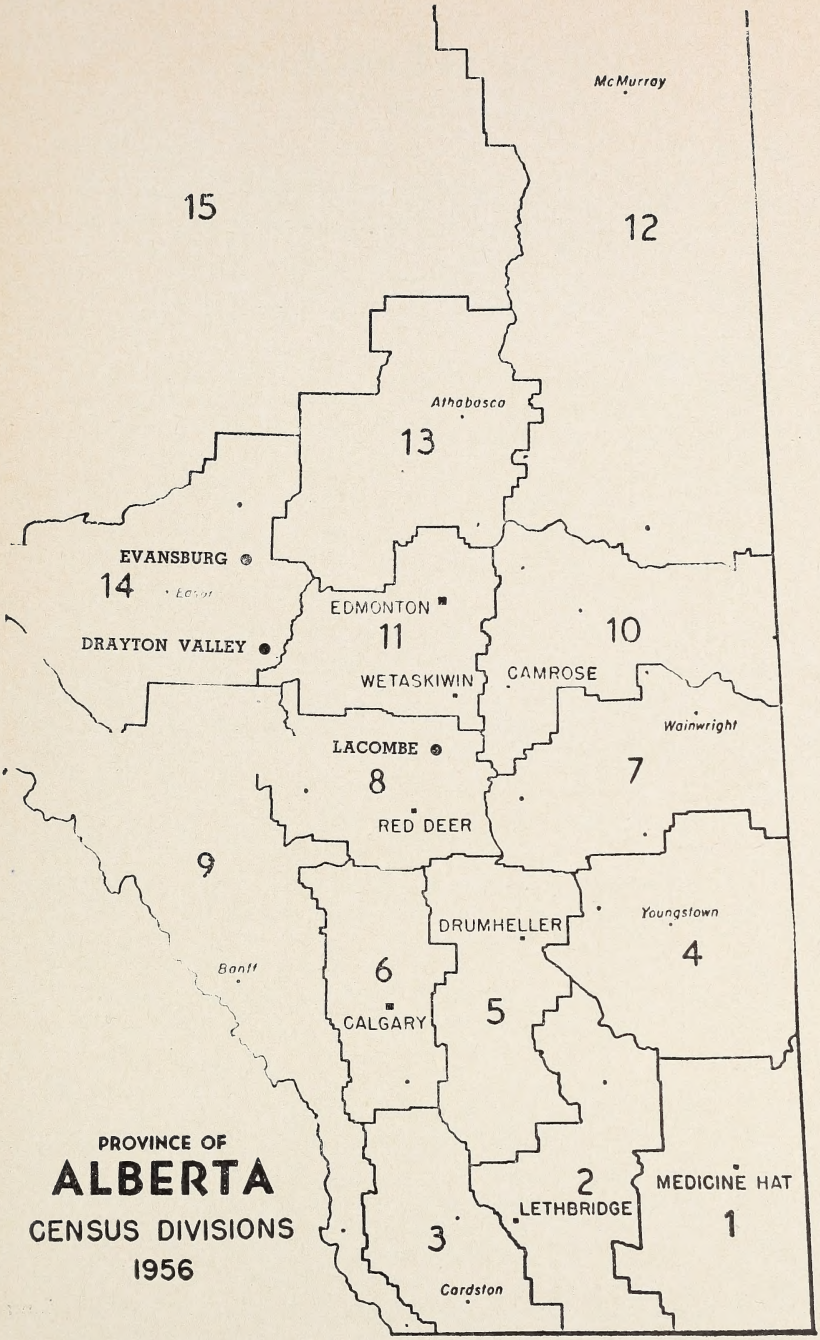
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Village of Evansburg

(Revised August, 1959)

1. LOCATION

Section 30 N½ 19-53-7-W5 in Census Division No. 14. This location is 63 miles west of Edmonton and on the main line of the Canadian National Railway — Vancouver to Montreal. It is on Highway No. 16 which is hard surfaced from Jasper to Lloydminster.

2. ALTITUDE

2557 Latitude 53/36 Longtitude 115/01

3. TEMPERATURE

Mean summer temperature	53°F.
Mean winter temperature	23°F.
Average mean yearly temperature	36°F.

4. RAINFALL

Average yearly rainfall	13.18 inches
Average yearly snowfall	50.1 inches
Average total yearly precipitation	18.19 inches

The above averages were taken from the nearest weather station.

5. GEOLOGY

The Evansburg area is underlain by sedimentary rocks of Tertiary Age, known as the Paskapoo formation. These sediments consist of sandstone, shale, thin layer of bentonite and thin coal beds. The surface is covered with glacial drift which is clayey in character and deposited from continental glaciers which moved in from the North West Territories.

6. SOIL

Evansburg is in the degraded black soil zone.

Climate

Annual precipitation averages from about 12 inches in the northern section to about 20 inches in the southern. Evaporation is lower than in some zones.

Vegetation

Mainly woodland in which tree growth is frequently denser and has more evergreens than in the black soil zone.

Profile

Generally quite mixed, ranging from nearly black to grey. The surface horizon consists of a thin layer of semi-decomposed leaf litter (AO) which may be absent in burnt over areas, underlain by a mineral horizon that can usually be divided into two parts. The upper (A1) part may be black, grey, black or dark brown. The lower part (A2) is frequently somewhat leached of organic matter and considerably greyer than the A1. The total depth of these surface horizons average about 10 to 12 inches. The B horizons are generally dark brown in color and lime is found at depths of about 30 to 40 inches.

Fertility

These soils are usually not as rich as those of the black zone. Leaching of the surface horizons has resulted in the loss of some plant food.

Land Use

A system of mixed farming that includes legumes in the crop rotation, supplemented with applications of fertilizer when required should be practiced for best results.

7. HISTORY

The history of Evansburg dates back to 1908 with the arrival of the steel of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. The railway bridge was completed in 1909. The Duke of Sutherland owned 40,000 acres of land in the area and started the North West Collieries coal mine. In 1922 an explosion in the mine cost the lives of two miners and in 1936 closed because supply was exhausted and there was no market to justify opening a new shaft. This mine was equipped with the latest machinery and equipment.

A Mr. Robert Young was one of the early residents and he built the tipple and the majority of the houses in the town. A fire destroyed the tipple and a new one was erected. With the closing of the mine, the majority of the houses were sold for $50.00 and were moved away. The homes were constructed out of fir wood and they were all plastered. About 12 of the original homes are still located in Evansburg. Some are on different locations, many remodelled and modernized.

The Evansburg Hotel burned to the ground twice and a new one was erected each time.

In 1941 a Mr. Wolf started a creamery which is still in operation.

The first church built was of the United faith.

Sewer and water was installed in 1957 and gas was installed in the same year.

8. LIVING CONDITIONS

Evansburg is well laid out with two wide main streets which are gravelled. Business premises have been well kept and the homes are modern.

Schools teach grades 1 to 12 with optional subjects in Home Economics, Shop, Drama, Typing, Art and Music.

Three churches supply the spiritual needs of the community.

Hunting is a popular sport in the Evansburg district. Large lakes and sloughs provide excellent shooting for ducks and geese with upland game birds plentiful in the area. Big game hunting is available a few miles west and north.

There are 115 homes in the village with the average rent being $45.00 per month. The majority of the homes are owner occupied.

9. ADMINISTRATION

The village is governed by a mayor (selected from the council) and two councillors (one elected each year for a term of three years). The town secretary carries out the policies set by the council.

10. LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The village hires its own police constable. The R.C.M.P. police the highway and rural points. There is no building by-law and all new buildings, removal of buildings or alterations to buildings, must first be approved by council after which a permit is issued.

Electrical installations must comply with the Alberta Electrical Protection Act.

Sanitary regulations comply with the Alberta Public Health Regulations enforced by the Edson Health Unit.

11. FIRE PROTECTION

The Evansburg fire brigade consists of a fire chief and 19 volunteer firemen.

Equipment

2 HP siren
Water supply in elevated tower with capacity of 42,000 gal.
8 water hydrants
1-ton truck, Darby portable pump, 250 gallon water tank
300 feet 2½ inch hose
300 feet 1½ inch hose
20 feet hard suction hose
Ladders, portable fire extinguishers and tools

12. TAX STRUCTURE

	1958 Net Assessment
Land (100% of value)	$ 38,640
Improvement (100% of fair value)	275,670
Business	54,158
Power	46,000
	$416,468

Mill Rate

	Municipal	School	Hospital	Total
1959	32	32	4	68 mills

13. AREAS

Area of village	260 acres
Public parks and playgrounds	6 acres
Streets and lanes	44 acres

Miles of roads, streets and lanes

	Asphalt	Gravel	Others	Total
Provincial Main	.75			.75
Streets and roads		2	2	4.
Lanes and alleys		.5	2	2.50
Total Miles				7.25

There is approximately 3 miles of cement sidewalk.

14. SEWER AND WATER MAIN MILEAGE

Storm	nil
Sanitary	2,410 feet
Water mains	6,470 feet

15. POWER

Three phase 60 cycle power is supplied under a franchise by Calgary Power Ltd.

Domestic Rates

Available only for lighting, cooking, domestic power and ordinary use in private houses and individual apartments used exclusively for residential purposes.

First 20 KWH or less used per month $3.30 gross minimum.

Subject to 30c prompt payment discount making $2.30 net minimum.

All over 20 KWH used per month 3c net per KWH.

Discount — as shown applies on any bill paid within 10 days of date rendered.

Connection charge $1.00.

Reconnection charge $6.00.

Commercial Rates

Available for lighting and general service in commercial establishments.

For first ½ KW of connected load $2.00.

Each additional ¼ KW of connected load 20c.

Energy Charge

First 50 KWH per month per KW of installation	10c	per KWH.
Next 150 KWH per month per KW of installation	5c	per KWH.
Excess KWH per month per KW of installation	3 1/3c	per KWH.

Minimum monthly charge $3.30 gross, $3.00 net.

Discount — 10%, 10 days based on even dollars of total monthly bill with a minimum discount of 30c per month .

Consumer's deposit $6.60.

Reconnection charge $6.00.

Power Rates

Available for motors and commercial heating apparatus used in commercial establishments.

Service Charge

Per KVA of installation (monthly charge) $1.00 (one motor horse power or one kilowatt in heating apparatus considered equal to one kilovolt ampere — KVA).

A view of a portion of the main street of Evansburg.

Energy Charge

First 50 KWH per month per KVA of installation 5c per KWH.
Next 50 KWH per month per KVA of installation 3 1/3c per KWH.
All over 100 KWH per month per KVA of installation 2¼c per KWH.

Discount — 10%, 10 days based on the dollars of total bill with a minimum discount of 30c per month.

Minimum charge $3.30 gross, $3.00 net; or the amount of the service charge, whichever is greater.

Consumer's deposit $2.00 per KVA of installation and not less than $6.00 or, at the company's option, twice the estimated bill.

Reconnection charge $6.00.

16. WATER

Water is obtained from local wells and the Pembina River. It is pumped into a 41,735 gallon elevated tower.

Rates

First 3,000 gallons or less used per month $4.50.
Next 50,000 gallons used per month $1.00 per M gal.
Over 53,000 gallons used per month 75c per M gal.
Plus sewerage charge of from $1.00 to $25.00 per month.

Water Analysis

	Parts per Million
Total solids	358
Ignition loss	114
Hardness	280
Sulphates	31
Chlorides	—
Alkalinity	310

Nature of Alkalinity — bicarbonate of soda, lime and magnesium.

Nitrites	—
Nitrates	—
Florine	1.0
Iron	0.6

Remarks: Water chemically suitable.

17. GAS

Natural gas is supplied to the village under a franchise by the Northwestern Utilities Ltd.

Rates

Available to all consumers.
First 2 MCF or less used per month $2.50.
All additional MCF used per month 59c per MCF.
Minimum monthly charge $2.50.

Optional Rate

Available on annual contract to all consumers whose annual consumption is more than 2,890 MCF per year.

Fixed charge $35.00 per month.
All MCF 45c per MCF per month.
Minimum monthly charge $35.00.

18. L.P. GAS

Heat value 2521 b.t.u. per gallon at 60°F.
100 lb. cylinder $6.50.
Bulk 18c per gallon.
There is no dealer in Evansburg. Nearest dealer in Entwhistle.

19. DIESEL FUEL

Heat value 135,000 to 140,000 b.t.u. per gallon at 60°F.
Summer grade 18.1 cents per gallon.
Winter grade 19.1 cents per gallon.
Storage capacity 6,500 gallons.

20. COAL

Coal is secured from a strip mine 7 miles north east of Evansburg.

Price F.O.B. Mine Per Ton

Lump	Egg	Slack
$8.00	$7.00	$5.00

21. LOCAL RESOURCES

Wheat, coarse grains, dairy products, livestock, cattle, horses, sheep and hogs, poultry and eggs, coal, gravel, sand.

22. GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND SERVICES

Federal

Post office; R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Provincial

Alberta Government Telephones; Municipal Affairs; Treasury Branch (sub-agency); Fish and Game Branch (Dept. Lands and Forests); Alberta Government Liquor Store; Dept. Highways Yards.

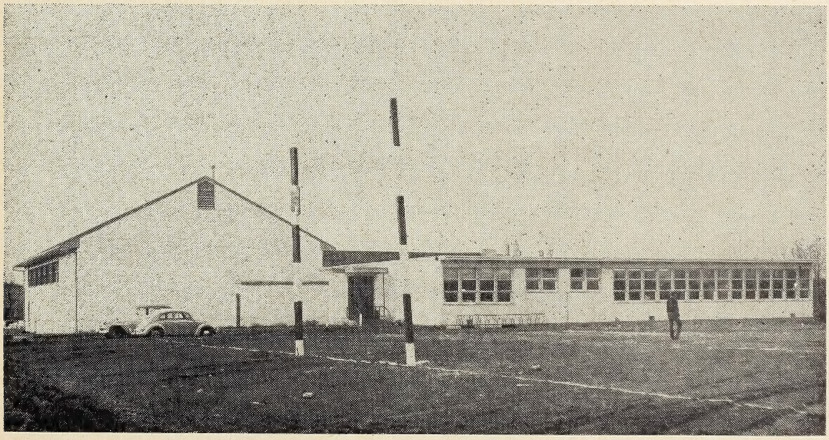
Municipal

Town Hall; Fire Hall; Town Secretary; Village Foreman; Village Police.

23. HEALTH SERVICES

There is no hospital in Evansburg. 1 local doctor, 1 drug store, 1 optometrist (calling).

The Edson Health Unit makes two monthly clinics to Evansburg.



Fine modern schools serve town and district students.

24. PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED SERVICES

(excluding health services)

Watch repairs, 1.

Drugless physician (calls once a week).

25. TRANSPORTATION

Canadian National Railways—Vancouver to Montreal via Evansburg.

Canadian Greyhound Bus Line — 2 buses daily east and west.

Local truck hauling to and from Edmonton.

26. NEWSPAPERS

Pembina Herald published in Edmonton. Daily circulation Edmonton Journal.

27. COMMUNICATIONS

Canadian National Telegraphs

Alberta Government Telephones

Post office

Nearest radio stations, Edmonton—CFRN, CJCA, CHED, CKUA, CHFA, CBX.

Nearest TV station, Edmonton—CFRN-TV

28. FINANCIAL FACILITIES

Royal Bank of Canada

Treasury Branch (sub-agency)

29. HOTELS

	No. of Rooms	Rates	Beer Licenced
New Evansburg Hotel	15	$2.50 up	yes

30. TOURIST CAMPS

	Rating	No. of Units	Rates
Pembina Tourist Camp	O Star	5	Reasonable

Trailer Courts

Evansburg Tourist Camp — trailers and tents

Pembina Tourist Camp — trailers and tents

31. CHURCHES

Anglican; United; Roman Catholic (Parish only), church at Entwistle (2 miles); Pentecostal; Lutheran.

32. LODGES

Nil.

33. SERVICE CLUBS

Chamber of Commerce; Kinsmen; Kinettes; Canadian Legion; Women's Auxiliary Canadian Legion.

34. SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Home and School Association; Fish and Game Association; Alberta Teachers Association; Community League.

35. SCHOOLS

Evansburg is part of the Edson School Division No. 12. Grades 1 to 12 are taught along with the following optional subjects: Typing, Art, Drama and Music.

The population and staff are as follows:

	Grades	Teachers	Pupils
Elementary	1 - 6	6	152
Junior High	7 - 9	3	72
High	10 - 12	3	58

36. THEATRES AND HALLS

	Capacity	Stage	Piano
Legion Hall (also used as theatre)	300	yes	yes
School Auditorium	300	yes	yes

37. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

There is no public library but a library for the school children is available at the school.

1 local orchestra.

38. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Boys	Girls
Wolf Cubs	Brownies
Scouts	Guides
Army Cadets	4-H Club (District)
4-H Club (District)	

Attractive churches meet the religious needs of the community.

39. SPORTS

Baseball, Softball, Hockey, Curling, Badminton.

Sports Facilities

Covered curling rink, 2 sheets natural ice.
Open air hockey and skating rink.
Baseball diamond.
Playgrounds.

40. FAIRS

Annual Sports Day
Ice Carnival

41. HISTORICAL SITES

Nil.

42. CO-OPERATIVES

United Grain Growers

43. INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS

Type of Industry or Business	Number of Establishments	Producer or Manufacturer	Wholesale	Retail
Auto Junk Yards	1	—	—	—
Banks	1	—	—	—
Blacksmith	1	1	—	—
Cabinet Maker	1	1	—	1
Cement Work	1	1	—	—
Creameries	1	1	1	1
Doctors	1	—	—	—
Drug Stores	1	—	—	1
Dry Cleaners	Calling			
Electrical Appliances	see hardware			
Garage & Service Stations	2	—	—	2
Grain Elevators	1	—	—	—
Groceries	3	—	—	3
General Stores	2	—	—	2
Hardware	1	—	—	1
Hotels	1	—	—	—

Type of Industry or Business	Number of Establishments	Producer or Manufacturer	Wholesale	Retail
Implement (Farm)	3	—	—	3
Insurance & Real Estate	1	—	—	—
Jewellers	1	—	—	1
Lumber Yards	1	—	—	1
Milk Distributors	1	—	—	—
Optometrists	Calling			
Oil Distributors	4	—	4	—
Drugless Physician	Calling			
Radio Repairs	1	—	—	—
Restaurants	2	—	—	—
Shoe Repairs	1	1	—	1
Variety Store	1	—	—	1
Welding and Machine Shop	1	1	—	1

44. SITES

Residential and industrial property can be purchased at a reasonable price from private owners.

45. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

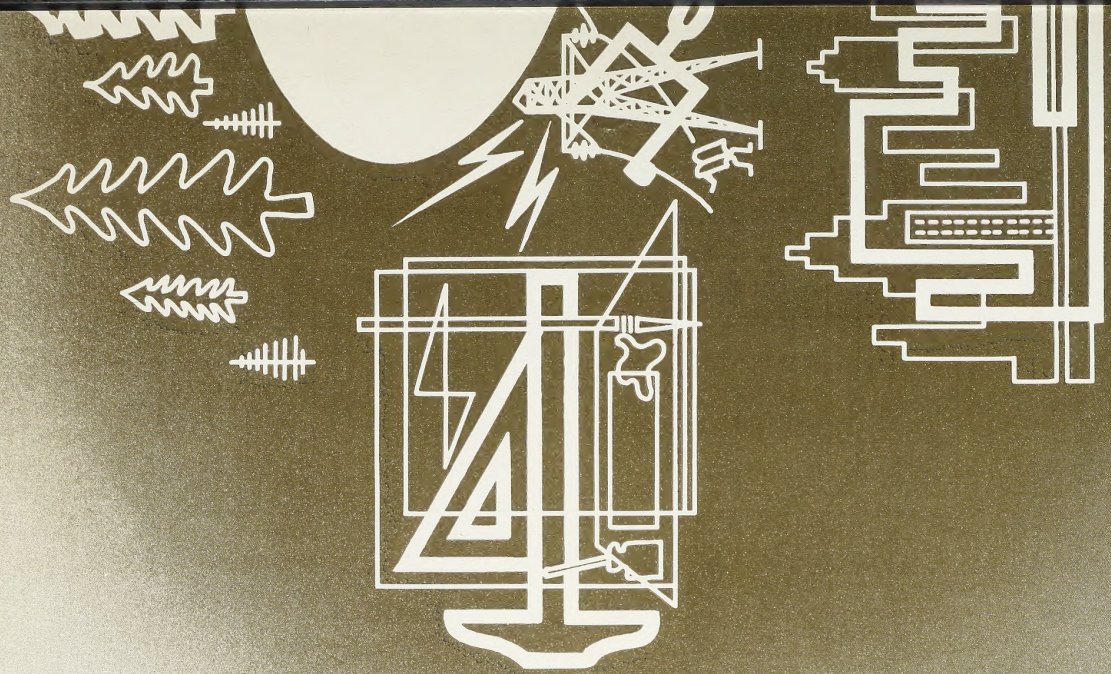
The area served by Evansburg is composed of transitional and wooded soils In 1950 receipts from the sale of forest products and fur accounted for more than 10 percent of the total farm income. The remainder came from the sale of grain, cattle and pigs.

In 1956 the area in acres of principle crops per farm were: wheat 12, oats 20, barley 16, and tame hay including forage seed crops 19. Livestock numbers per farm were: cattle 13, sheep 3.5, pigs 5, and hens and chickens 67.

46. TRADING AREA

North	10 miles
West	5 miles
South	20 miles
East	2 miles

47. POPULATION

Trading area population,	1956 census	3,972
Village population,	1956 census	358

Village population, March 1959, 415 estimate.